

**SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Valentine called the SBCCOG Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

II. VERIFY QUORUM

In attendance were the following voting elected officials:

Cedrick Hicks, Carson (6:06 arrival)	Jim Roos, Palos Verdes Estates
Drew Boyles, El Segundo	John Cruikshank, Rancho Palos Verdes
Rodney Tanaka, Gardena	Christian Horvath, Redondo Beach
Olivia Valentine, Hawthorne	Bea Dieringer, Rolling Hills
Stacey Armato, Hermosa Beach	Steve Zuckerman, Rolling Hills Estates (7:08 arrival)
Dionne Faulk, Inglewood (6:12 arrival)	George Chen, Torrance
Bernadette Suarez, Lawndale (6:03 arrival)	Sonia Lopez, LA County D-2
Jim Gazeley, Lomita	Jennifer LaMarque, LA County D-4
Hildy Stern, Manhattan Beach	

Other elected officials in attendance:

Bill Brand, Redondo Beach	Mike Griffiths, Torrance
Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates	

Also, in attendance were the following persons:

Martha Hurtado, El Segundo	Basil Hewitt, LA Sanitation Districts
Jacob Haik, LA City CD-15	Sarah Patterson, SCAG
Aksel Palacios, LA City CD-15	Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG
Stephano Padilla, AQMD	Kim Fuentes, SBCCOG
Nicol Manzanares, Energy Coalition	Steve Lantz, SBCCOG
Jeff Kiernan, Cal Cities	Wally Siembab, SBCCOG
Fernanda Craig, LA County ISD	David Leger, SBCCOG
Lindsey Lastra LA County Public Health	Colleen Farrell, SBCCOG
Nancy Rodriguez, LA County Public Health	Grace Farwell, SBCCOG
Glenn Acosta, LA Sanitation Districts	Holly Osborne, Public

III. CONFIRM POSTING OF THE AGENDA BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Jacki Bacharach confirmed that the agenda was properly posted in the City of Torrance.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Bacharach reported no changes to the agenda but brought the Board Members' attention to the modified Consent Calendar description as noted in Delegation of Authority item on the Consent Calendar.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

Ms. Bacharach noted that Item B (South Bay Fiber Network) was being removed from the Consent Calendar and will be brought back at a future meeting.

- A. February Board Meeting Minutes (attachments) – Approved**
- B. South Bay Fiber Network Work Orders (attachments) – Pulled from agenda, no action taken**
 1. Change order to Work Order #3 and Work Order #4
- C. Special Assessment for SBCCOG Land Use Planner (attachment) – Approved**
- D. Contract with So Cal Gas Company (attachment) – Approved**
 1. Bea Dieringer – SBCCOG appointment to LCC
 2. Bill Brand – Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

- E. Delegation of Authority Issue** *(attachment)* – **Approved**
- F. Legislative Matrix with bills of interest** *(attachment)* – **Approved**
 - 1. Support – AB 538, SB 612, AB 1053, ACA 7, AB 1251
 - 2. Oppose – SB 617, AB 339, AB 1401
- G. Actions of Steering Committee since last Board meeting** *(attachment)* – **Received and Filed**
- H. Monthly Reports – Received and Filed**
 - 1. South Bay Environmental Services Center Report *(attachment)*
 - 2. Transportation Report *(attachment)*
 - 3. City Attendance at SBCCOG meetings *(attachment)*
 - 4. Reports from Outside Agencies *(attachments for each at end of the agenda)*
 - a. League of California Cities & LA Division Legislative Committee (Bea Dieringer & Jeff Kiernan)
 - b. SCAG Regional Council (Drew Boyles, Mark Henderson, James Gazeley)
 - c. SCAG Energy and Environment Committee & California Association of Councils of Governments (Britt Huff)
 - d. Metro Service Council & Ridership Report (Don Szerlip)
 - e. South Bay Workforce Investment Board (Chris Cagle)

Board Members Roos and Dieringer requested that Item C (Land Use Planner Assessment) be pulled for additional discussion.

MOTION by Board Member Huff, seconded by Board Member Tanaka, to **APPROVE** the Consent Calendar except Items B and C. No objection. So ordered.

Board Member Dieringer shared that Rolling Hills discussed the assessment and although it is not supported, would be willing to pay a maximum assessment of \$1,000 and to have that assessment revisited annually.

Board Member Roos noted that Palos Verdes Estates voted to not support the assessment in its current form and shared that their concern was mainly the added value they would be receiving and that the position would focus on tracking or enforcing member compliance with state law.

Board Member Chen shared that Torrance supports local control, just like other South Bay cities. If the position is created, that person's goal should be to protect and support local control. He added that Torrance staff reviewed the proposed assessment and job description and recommended supporting the proposal. Board Member Chen asked Board Member Roos if the city would consider supporting the proposal if the language was clarified in the job description. Board Member Roos affirmed that he suspected his colleagues would be fine with the assessment if there was more balanced language and clarification added that the duties include advocating for local control.

Board Member Cruikshank announced that RPV supported the assessment and believes the South Bay is stronger as a collective region, particularly through organizations such as the SBCCOG. He noted that although he hears his fellow Peninsula city representatives, he believes their concerns are unfounded. He also shared that his city does not have the resources to hire a staff member to understand the impacts of state legislation, and that sharing in that expense with other SBCCOG members seemed like a great value.

Board Member Horvath added his view that this position would be to help SBCCOG members understand and comply with state law but would in no way serve as a policeman for SCAG, HCD, or any other body.

Board Member Armato asked Ms. Bacharach what it meant if some cities did not pay the assessment or paid an amount less than the assessment. Ms. Bacharach shared that since participation is voluntary, the main repercussion is that specific work would not be done in those cities. The assessment would not increase for the participating members, but the funding shortfall would be made up from general revenues.

Board Member Boyles proposed an amendment clarifying that the intention of the position is to retain or increase local control and to clarify/remove language about tracking compliance. Board Member Roos noted this would satisfy his concerns.

MOTION by Board Member Boyles, seconded by Board Member Gazeley to **APPROVE** the special assessment with the clarified description.

Aye: Boyles, Valentine, Armato, Gazeley, Stern, Cruikshank, Horvath, Huff, Chen, Lopez
Nay: Dieringer,
Abstention/No Vote: Hicks, Tanaka, Faulk, Suarez, Roos, LaMarque

Motion passed. So ordered.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Construction Update on the Clearwater Project

Mr. Acosta presented a brief update on LACSD's Clearwater Project which is building a new stormwater outflow tunnel from the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson to the existing outfall in San Pedro. The new tunnel is 18ft wide and is augmenting two existing tunnels, an 8ft wide tunnel built in 1937 and a 12ft wide tunnel built in 1958. During recent storms, those tunnels have neared capacity which if it was breached, would require the JCPCP to dump untreated waste water into Harbor Park and/or the Dominguez Channel. The Clearwater Tunnel, when completed, will provide the necessary capacity to allow LACSD the opportunity to inspect and repair the older tunnels. The project's tunnel boring machine has been delivered and the access shaft and starter/tail tunnels are nearing completion. The project is expected to be completed by 2027 and will cost approximately \$700 million.

Mr. Acosta's presentation is available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_2021%20Clearwater%20Project%20Update.pdf

B. South Bay Regional Partnership & SoCalREN Public Agency Programs

Ms. Craig began by giving the Board a brief overview of the Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN). She explained that LA County administers the SoCalREN Public Agency Programs which are funded by utility ratepayers (via the CPUC). She thanked the SBCCOG Board and staff for their partnership and noted the value that the existing SBCCOG relationships brought to the programs. She also briefly touched on some of the programs being administered in the South Bay such as the Multi-Family program that aims to bring comprehensive energy upgrades to multi-family properties.

Ms. Manzanera then presented some of the SoCalREN Regional Partners and the coordinated marketing/outreach approach. She explained that the SBCCOG team is leading enrollment efforts and helping bring on cities and school districts to the programs, including identifying presentation opportunities. She touched on the Public Agency Programs such as Metered Savings Program and the Revolving Savings Fund, as well as the no-cost energy efficiency services such as benchmarking, technical support, and project management/procurement/financing/construction support. She then focused on some of the progress made in the South Bay so far this year, highlighting some projects underway and newly enrolled agencies.

The full presentation is available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_SoCalREN%20Update%20to%20the%20SBCCOG%20%20Board%20%281%29.pdf

Ms. Fuentes added that this work is being done to help cities meet their individual goals and bring extra resources to city staff.

C. Sacramento Stripping Local Control of Zoning and Land Use

Redondo Beach Mayor Bill Brand presented his efforts to fight Sacramento's assault on local control over zoning and land use. Mayor Brand touched on some of the history of the issue, including the fact that the housing issue is more about a lack of affordability than a lack of supply. He touched on some of the recent efforts to strip local control over the zoning and land use policies throughout the state and current bills being considered. He went on to review ways to get involved that include supporting ACA 7 which would put in the state constitution an amendment protecting local control over zoning and land use; joining California Alliance of Local Electeds which is a coalition of locally elected officials that meet weekly; lobby state legislators; and join California Cities for Local Control, which was started by Torrance Councilmember Mike Griffiths.

Councilmember Griffiths gave a brief overview of California Citizens for Local Control which is a grassroots effort of volunteers statewide that are working together to identify support so that there can be a unified voice advocating alongside the well-financed special interests in Sacramento.

The presentation is available on the SBCCOG website here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_Protecting%20Local%20Control%20of%20Zoning%20and%20Land%20Use.pdf

VIII. TRANSPORTATION REPORTS

A. Metro Report

Mr. Lantz reported the following items: 1) Metro is considering a 24-month pilot Fareless System Initiative (FSI) that would apply to K-12 students as soon as August, with a Phase 2 expansion to low-income riders in January 2022. The pilot is proposed to cost approximately \$200 million and would involve the local municipal operators as well. Metro would want municipal operators to determine how to make up their own losses; 2) The Metro Board passed an amendment to the federal project priorities that instructs staff to collaborate and coordinate with Inglewood as it seeks federal funding for the Inglewood Transit Connector project; 3) Metro originally estimated the Airport Metro Connector project at \$580 million and it is now expected to cost \$885 million with the increase attributed to higher construction and material costs. The Board approved moving forward with the project, but it triggered a lot of discussion among the Board as to why capital projects are continually going over budget; 4) Metro Board approved use of state cap and trade funds to address Crenshaw/LAX cost overruns, with any excess funding to be allocated to the FSI.

B. Transportation Committee report

1. Measure M Metro Budget Request Amendment – APPROVED

Board Member Horvath announced that the committee received several presentations by Metro on their Coordinated Plan, Airport Connector Project, and a brief update on the Crenshaw North Extension Project scoping period. The committee also recommended SBCCOG Board approval of an amendment to the Measure M Metro Budget Request to include funding for the wayfinding signage design for the SBCCOG's Local Travel Network Project.

MOTION by Board Member Horvath, seconded by Board Member Armato, to **APPROVE** the Metro Budget Request amendment. No objection. So ordered.

IX. SBCCOG PROGRAM ACTION ITEMS, REPORTS AND UPDATES

A. Research re: more local control re: health regulations

a. Service Planning Area 8 Update

Ms. Lastra introduced herself and provided the Board a brief presentation on the California Healthy Places Index, what the scores are based upon, and how some of the SBCCOG cities and communities have scored. She went on to review some of the detailed health statistics such as life expectancy and access to healthcare that make up those scores. Ms. Lastra's full presentation is available online here : https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_SPA%208%20Update.pdf

Board Member Stern asked if the community profiles are available to the cities. Ms. Lastra shared that she will have Ms. Rodriguez send the profiles over to the SBCCOG for distribution to the individual cities.

B. General Assembly

Ms. Fuentes reviewed the GA survey responses with the Board and touched on some of the statistical differences between the 2019 in-person and 2021 virtual events. Overall, fewer responses were received for the virtual event, but they indicated that the was very well received.

C. Legislative Visits

Ms. Bacharach reported that meetings have been scheduled with Assemblymembers O'Donnell and Burke, and housing staff for two others to express the SBCCOG's concerns with the proposed housing legislation but most meetings likely won't take place until May.

D. South Bay Fiber Network

Ms. Bacharach announced that the SBCCOG has had great conversations with the SBWIB and Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) about BCHD putting on virtual healthy workplace workshops for the SBWIB that can be streamed via the SBFN. Mr. Siembab is also working with LA County ISD on their digital divide initiative and the possibility of doing a pilot project in the South Bay that utilizes the SBFN.

E. Community Project Funding Requests

Mr. Leger reported that applications were submitted to Congressmembers Lieu, Barragan, and Waters for neighborhood center demonstration projects within their districts. One will also be submitted to Senator Feinstein's office for the same locations identified in the individual House applications. Additional updates will be provided when the offices begin to select projects.

F. Senior Services

Ms. Farwell shared that the SBCCOG is revisiting the Age Friendly program and is looking into becoming an age-friendly region. The next Senior Services Working Group meeting will be May 25th.

G. Homeless Services

Ms. Farwell reported that LA County released the draft Measure H funding recommendations on April 15th with a 3-week comment period ending May 6th. The SBCCOG continues to work with 5 cities on the implementation funding, which will receive some bridge funding to carry through the end of 2021. The LAHSA governance structure is still being reviewed and a presentation about it has been made available on the LAHSA website. One of the main recommendations is to ensure that an individual with lived experience is on every committee. The next Homeless Services Task Force meeting will take place May 5th.

H. Telework Workshop

Ms. Bacharach announced that the SBCCOG is looking to organize a workshop for city staff and elected officials on what a hybrid telework workplace looks like, best practices, etc. Once a speaker has been identified, an announcement will be made.

I. Ad Hoc Committees

1. Nominating Committee has been selected to nominate new officers and 4 at large Steering Committee members

Chair Valentine reported that anyone interested in serving should contact her. Nominations will be open in May and the Nominating Committee report will be presented. Elections will be at the June Board meeting.

2. ByLaws Committee

Chair Valentine asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. Board Members Chen, Armato, and Dieringer will participate along with Chair Valentine.

X. AGENCY REPORTS

NOTE: Oral reports are only made to clarify or amplify written attachments. All reports that were submitted or handed out are available online here: <https://www.southbaycities.org/committees/board-directors/board-directors-meeting-70>

A. SCAG Committees

1. Community, Economic, & Human Development (Mark Henderson, Drew Boyles, Frank Zerunyan & Mark Waronek) – no oral report
2. Transportation (James Gazeley) – no oral report

B. Air Quality Management District (Joe Buscaino & Denny Shaw) – no oral report

C. KHHR (Hawthorne Airport) Communities Network Committee (Olivia Valentine) – no oral report

D. South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce (Olivia Valentine) – no oral report

E. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Bill Brand/vacant) – no oral report

F. South Bay Aerospace Alliance (Olivia Valentine/Rodney Tanaka) – no oral report

XI. UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Bacharach reported that Lomita Councilmember Mark Waronek is the incoming president of the Contract Cities association.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Valentine adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm to Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom until further notice.

David Leger, Assistant Board Secretary